

Remark

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 1-4, 6-8, 11-14, 16-19, 21-22, 24-26 and 28-29 have been amended. Claim 10 has been cancelled. Therefore, claims 1-9, 11-29 are present for examination.

Claim Objections

The Examiner has objected to Claims 1-29 on various informalities. The Examiner's suggestions are adopted in the amendments above with only a few exception. Note, for example, that in Claim 6, the dependency has been changed. Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if any further informalities are discovered or if there remain any questions about the present amendments.

35 U.S.C. §112 Rejection

The Examiner has rejected Claims 8 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. These claims are amended in an effort to clarify the invention.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 10 has been indicated as allowable if rewritten to incorporate the limitations of Claim 1. Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the limitations of Claim 10, above. In addition, the remaining independent claims are also amended to incorporate limitations similar to those of Claim 10. Accordingly, all of the pending claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections have been overcome by the amendment and remark, and that the claims as amended are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejections be withdrawn and the claims as amended be allowed.

Invitation for a Telephone Interview

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Request for an Extension of Time

Applicants respectfully petition for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for such an extension. Charge our Deposit Account.

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: 11/11/04



Gordon R. Lindeen III
Reg. No. 33,192

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
7th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025-1026
(303) 740-1980

Attorney Docket No. 015685.P091
Application No. 09/812,770